central area within the automobile for permitting the operator to touch selected ones of said plurality of actuators with the operator's fingers while the operator's hand is supported on the support section of said shifter without removing the hand from said support section, said plurality of actuators including at least one locking actuator which locks or unlocks certain other actuators, whereby at least two different control signals can be transmitted to the receiving means for controlling desired operations of the music system.

**2**. A music system for an automobile having a floor mounted gear shifter next to the operator's seat at a central area within an automobile, said control unit comprising: a support section mounted on said shifter for supporting an operator's hand when shifting gears; transmitting means including a plurality of actuators mounted in correspondence with said support section at said central area within the automobile for permitting the operator to touch selected ones of said plurality of actuators with the same hand placed on the support section of said shifter without removing the hand from said support section whereby control signals are transmitted; and receiving means for receiving said transmitted control signals to control the audio system, whereby at least two different control signals can be transmitted to the receiving means for controlling desired operations of the music system.

**3**. The control unit of claim **1**, wherein said transmitting means is secured to said shifter.

**4**. The control unit of claim **1**, wherein said transmitting means is releasably secured to said shifter.

**5**. The control unit of claim **1**, further comprising a housing secured to said shifter, said plurality of actuators being mounted on said housing, said housing including an opening arranged so that said plurality of actuators mounted on said housing are spaced from said support section of said shifter, whereby an operator's fingers can be placed within said opening when in a supported position while the operator's hand is supported on said support section of said shifter and said actuators can be reached by extension of the operator's fingers so that control signals can be transmitted from said transmitting means.

**6**. The control unit of claim **5**, wherein at least one of said actuators is a locking actuator which locks or unlocks certain other actuators.

**7**. The control unit of claim **1**, wherein at least one of said actuators is a locking actuator which locks or unlocks certain other actuators.

**8**. The control unit of claim **6** wherein said transmitting means includes infrared transmitting means for transmitting infrared control signals to control the operation of the audio system.

**9**. The control unit of claim **1** wherein said transmitting means includes infrared transmitting means for transmitting infrared control signals to control the operation of the audio system.

**10**. The music system of claim **2**, wherein said transmitting means is releasably secured to said shifter.

**11**. The music system of claim **2**, wherein said transmitting means is secured to said shifter.

**12**. The music system of claim **2**, wherein said receiving means is mounted in the dashboard of the automobile.

**13**. The music system of claim **2**, wherein said receiving means and said transmitting means are both secured to said shifter.

**14**. The music system of claim **2**, further comprising a housing secured to said shifter, said plurality of actuators being mounted on said housing, said housing including an opening arranged so that said plurality of actuators mounted on said housing are spaced from said support section of said shifter, whereby an operator's fingers can be placed within said opening when in a supported position while the operator's hand is supported on said support section of said shifter and said actuators can be reached by extension of the operator's fingers so that control signals can be transmitted from said transmitting means.

**15**. The music system of claim **2**, wherein at least one of said actuators is a locking actuator which locks or unlocks certain other actuators.

**16**. The control system of claim **6** wherein said transmitting means includes infrared transmitting means for transmitting infrared control signals to control the operation of the audio system.

**17**. The music system of claim **2** wherein said transmitting means includes infrared transmitting means for transmitting infrared control signals to control the operation of the music system.

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